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Mayor Schor Names Beacon Park in Southwest Lansing

The new park features Beacon Soccer Field SW in addition to other amenities for residents of all ages

(LANSING) — Mayor Andy Schor has issued an Executive Order to establish and officially name Beacon Park in southwest Lansing. The park will feature a new playground and walking trail in addition to the recently completed southwest Beacon Soccer Field.

"Beacon Park is a fitting name for the park space since it features the second Beacon Soccer Field in the city," said Mayor Schor. "Lansing's time is now, and Beacon Park is yet another example of how the city is expanding to offer additional resources and amenities to our residents."

Located just behind the South Side Community Coalition, Beacon Park will feature amenities like a walking trail, a KaBOOM! Playground and shaded seating. The Lansing Parks and Recreation Department and South Side Community Coalition will be organizing Community Build Days to prepare the park.

"We are excited about the addition of a new park in Southwest Lansing," said Parks and Recreation Director Brett Kaschinske. "We have enjoyed the partnership between all of the organizations that have made this possible. Beacon Park has been an excellent example of public/private partnerships coming together to increase access to healthy activities and green space."

The southwest Beacon Soccer Field was completed in fall 2018 after the success of the first Beacon Field in north Lansing. The north Beacon Field was built in 2015 and won the Design Award for Outstanding Facility from the Michigan Recreation and Park Association. Both fields serve as high-quality, free, accessible spaces for community members young and old to use for pick-up games.

Phase one of the park will be complete after May 18, 2019, when the playground is scheduled to be installed. Funding for the Beacon Park amenities comes from a successful crowdfunding campaign that reached its goal of \$50,000 in January 2019. The donation was generously matched by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation. Beacon Park is a part of the broader Southwest Action Plan, which includes many proposed projects, such as the town square being developed in front of Pleasant Grove Plaza and the community designed art sculpture.